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The Washington Times

WASHINGTON, FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 1919.

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SECTION TWO.

SECTION TWO.

NEW LIGHT ON 50-50 PLAN UPSETS D. C.

Row Will Disrupt Municipal Affairs as Appropriation May Not Pass by July 1.

By BILL PRICE.

The half-and-half fight between Senate and House over District appropriations promises to again badly dislocate and upset municipal affairs inasmuch as the appropriation bill is not likely to be ready for final passage by July 1 and Congress will have to resort to the same old scheme of making appropriations in the last bill available until a new one is passed.

Interesting about this annual fight is that Congress has not for many years passed a single District appropriation bill with the half-and-half principle of the organic law of the District recognized or followed. This law has been consistently violated by both bodies and the burden of furnishing practically two-thirds of the funds for municipal expenses levied upon taxpayers of the city.

The Senate position, though, is the broad one, that until a definite plan of Federal and District contributions to municipal operation is agreed upon it is wisest not to repeal the organic act, which the House has long struggled to do. With that act repealed the burdens imposed upon District taxpayers would be increased yearly and the Federal Government gradually relieved of furnishing anything like a fair share of the cost of the city.

The House position, however, is that it is a FEDERAL CAPITAL, a city of international beauty and attractiveness.

The rural Congressman, having no knowledge of city needs, would be able to make splendid political capital for himself back in his neck of woods by consistently voting to saddle upon District people practically two-thirds of the value of property of the NATION, and not to the people of that city.

Value of United States Property. Upon request of members of Congress there were recently placed before the Senate and House the figures of the assessed values of real and personal properties in the District, and carefully estimated figures of the value of property of the United States, upon which taxes are not paid.

These figures show that the total value of real estate in the District is \$24,600,000. The value of the United States within the District is placed at \$246,000,000.

Of the total, the Government paid taxes on its property, therefore, its portion would be one-third on real estate alone, and it would have to pay many thousands of dollars additional in special taxes that are imposed upon the people from which it is also exempt, bringing its contributions by fair rules to almost 80 per cent. of half that of the people.

The District government, in addition, owns \$14,000,000 of untaxable property, with another \$24,000,000 of religious, educational, charitable, and foreign legation properties that pay no taxes.

Add this total to that of untaxable Government property and the total value in the city is substantially 40 per cent. of the whole.

There are about \$350,000,000 of personal, intangible property upon which the people here also pay taxes. The Government's holdings of taxable personal property have never been estimated.

The United States is not subject to the special assessments that go far toward raising the tax rate upon District people above that of nearly all cities of the country. When water or sewer pipes are laid here the property holders pay \$1.25 per front foot for each foot.

When wide and beautiful streets are extended or widened the cost is assessed against the property owners. On sidewalks property owners are heavily assessed.

When anything is done along these lines through Government action, the Government DOES NOT PAY ANYTHING. It is exempt from all SPECIAL TAXES AND ASSESSMENTS.

Water Uses An Illustration. The water department of the District is mainly a beautiful thing to the people of the District. Yet Uncle Sam has for years been subject to no charge for millions of gallons of water used in executive departments and bureaus, much of it wasted. The daily waste of water by two Government establishments alone is reckoned at 5,000,000 gallons.

When the activities of war started two years ago and the Government established camps and erected new buildings in the District, water mains costing hundreds of thousands of dollars were laid without the District paying assessments as citizens must do. The water cost the Government nothing while the citizen must pay for all he uses.

So it is possible to reckon the Government's share of appropriations for the District by its ownership of real estate and improvements.

Then comes the question of whether the wide streets and beautiful trees and parks designed to make this a FEDERAL CITY are to be kept up by taxes upon citizens or is the Federal Government to be the only city of the world, and do not wish to require the private citizen to pay the bulk of the taxes to do this.

NINE MORE BARBERS MUST FACE POLICE JUDGE

Nine more managers of barber shops will have to appear in Police Court to answer the charge of conducting their shops not in compliance with Health Department regulations. Inspections made by the sanitary force of the Health Department during the week have resulted in summoning over forty-five barbershop managers to Police Court.

Yesterday's investigations proved that barbers are lax in washing their hands before attending each customer. In several cases dirty utensils were found.

LARGE PENSION FOR VETERAN BUREAU AIDS

Six women and three men have been employed at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing for more than fifty years, the conferees on the retiring retirement bill were told today by Miss Gertrude M. McNally, secretary of the Federal Employees' Union, which is affiliated with the National Federation of Federal Employees.

One of the men, Edmund S. Lawson, 1405 Girard street northwest, has been employed at the bureau for more than fifty-six years. The other eight and their length of service are: Arthur Small, 1235 Thirty-third street northwest, fifty-five years; Charles B. Smith, 1409 Buchanan street, fifty-two years; Miss Annie R. Roe, 6408 Georgia avenue, fifty-four years; Mrs. M. Ash, 909 O street northwest, fifty-three years; Miss Emma S. Brown, 1111 M street northwest, fifty-three years; Miss Sallie E. Pagan, 1410 Euclid street, fifty-two years; Miss Annie E. Beale, 606 M street northwest, fifty-two years; and Miss Hattie Pennington, 49 T street northwest.

The federation presented the names of these employees, as well as a list of others employed at the bureau who are over sixty-five years of age, and who should no retirement bill be enacted, would receive no consideration from the Government in the event that they were dropped.

All of the employees, it was pointed out by the federation in its statement to the conferees, have been, and still are faithful employees, and should not be dropped.

"Any employee who has been in the service of the Government as these have should by all means be placed on a pension," said Miss McNally this morning. "They have faithfully performed their duty all these years—if they had not, they long ago would have been dismissed—and the Government should not have it said they should now leave their jobs without a pension."

The list presented to Congress also shows that thirty-five employees have been in the service for forty years, nineteen for forty-five, and thirteen from forty-six to fifty years.

ELECTED BOARD OF EDUCATION POPULAR

Encouraging progress in the campaign for the election of members of the Board of Education by vote of the people of Washington was reported today by Roy C. Clafflin, chairman of the joint citizens' committee for an elective school board.

"We have found that Congress has become intensely interested in the school controversies in Washington, and favors action to help the residents of the District bring the school question of an elected school board," said Mr. Clafflin today.

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A meeting of the subcommittee of the steering committee of the Joint Citizens' Committee for an Elective School Board will be held in the Board of Trade Thursday evening at 7:45 o'clock.

This committee, composed of Dr. Starr Parsons, of the Northeast Citizens' Association; W. W. Keeler, of the Central Labor Union; and Dr. J. Milton Waldron, of the Parents' League, will prepare a report to the steering committee, which will hold a meeting at 10 o'clock.

Payne, of the District and Maryland State Federation of Labor, as chairman of the steering committee, is an officer of the steering committee.

Further consideration of the bill creating a zoning commission for the District of Columbia, which would be empowered to fix location, height, and use of all buildings to be erected after its passage, was given this morning by the House District Committee.

Engineer Commissioner Kutz and Commissioner Louis Brownlow appeared before the committee. They went into details and discussed the measure section by section.

The sentiment of the committee is that there should be legislation along this line.

SEC. BAKER URGES RIVER POWER PROBE

Proposes \$10,000 for Survey of Water and Power Possibilities of the Potomac.

Secretary Baker, writing to Senator Sherman, chairman of the Senate Committee on the District and to Congressman Mapes, chairman of the House District Committee, this week recommended that an appropriation be made for another survey of the water supply and power possibilities of the Potomac river for Washington.

The proposed legislation which the Secretary has sent to the committees provides that \$10,000 be voted to defray expenses of the engineer corps of the army "to investigate and survey the Potomac river and its tributaries above the city of Washington, including also the question of increasing the water supply of the city and to submit to Congress projects covering both matters."

Several Surveys Fruitless. In his letter to the committee chairman Secretary Baker drew attention to the fact that several surveys have been made for the same reason, but that nothing of consequence had been derived as a result.

"These surveys have never been comprehensive," he wrote, "and have led to no definite determination of a project which might be recommended to Congress, and yet with this great river as a store house of energy the possibilities of economic power development for public and industrial uses in the District of Columbia, of which Washington is the center, is obvious."

The Secretary dwelt upon the needs for an adequate water supply for Washington, and the great economic possibilities of the power now wasting at Great Falls.

"I believe that the public interest can be served by such a survey and recommend that the provision submitted be incorporated in the District of Columbia appropriation bill or in a deficiency measure."

Duplicate System. In recommending the passage of this measure to the Secretary, Maj. Gen. W. M. Black, chief of engineers, emphasized the need of a duplicate water supply system.

"While I do not consider the existing condition in a dangerous condition," said General Black, "its condition is such as to cause me a very great uneasiness."

"The emergency means which have been in the service for many years, place an extra burden on the conduit and filter plant and do not reach the seat of the trouble. Also in seeking to increase the water supply, the source from which such increase is obtained should be as free as possible from contamination either present or future. The Potomac below Great Falls receives the drainage from a section of increasing population and cannot escape contamination."

Favor Langfitt Plan. The plan proposed to follow is that of Lieutenant Colonel Langfitt, of the army engineers, who in 1913, made a survey and proposed certain measures which would insure a water supply for the city, as well as power facilities.

In 1916 a board of engineers was appointed to make another survey, and the results of their action was a complete endorsement of Langfitt's proposition. This survey was completed between Washington and Cumberland, Md.

A further survey of Great Falls, made early in 1919, by a board authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, and composed of representatives from the Interior, War, State, Navy and Treasury Departments, also backed up the proposals made in the Langfitt investigation.

Marshall Awards Health Pennants. Vice President Marshall awarded fifty-four pennants to children of the winning classes in the recently closed health crusade in the District schools yesterday afternoon on the south steps of the Treasury.

Charles M. De Forest, of the New York National Tuberculosis Association, founder of the modern health crusade, spoke briefly on the practical hygiene work of the children.

Twenty-six thousand children participated in the health crusade, which was in progress for fifteen weeks, under the auspices of the Junior Red Cross and the Association for the Prevention of Tuberculosis.

Music was furnished by the Marine Band at the exercises yesterday.

DON'T CUT OUT MUFFLER, OR PULLMAN'LL GET YOU

The arrest of all violators of the police regulation governing the use of the muffler cut-out on automobiles was ordered today by Major Pullman, superintendent of police.

'Lost Battalion' Heroes to Be Guests of Press Club



MAJ. GEN. ROBERT ALEXANDER, LIEUT. COL. CHARLES WHITTLESEY, MAJOR McMURTRY, and CAPTAIN CULLEN, officers of the "Lost Battalion," will be the guests of the National Press Club on Tuesday, July 1, when the photoplay featuring the members of Colonel Whittlesey's command, entitled "The Lost Battalion," will be shown for the first time.

D. C. HOGS GET FAT ON GARBAGE MENU

The hog farm at Blue Plains, D. C., which has been in operation more than a month, is very successful, according to Morris Hacker and Thomas Costigan, of the Street Cleaning Department, who are in charge of the farm.

Two hundred hogs were purchased by the District some time ago to conduct an experiment. These hogs have been fed garbage for the past thirty days.

Results of one month's experience show that the small hogs have increased in weight on an average of fourteen pounds, and the large hogs on an average of fifty pounds.

Seven thousand pounds of garbage are fed the hogs each day.

D. C. EMPLOYEES PLAN OUTING. Local 89, an association of District employees, affiliated with the Federal Employees' Union, will give an excursion to Chesapeake Beach on July 15.

E. M. Dawson, president of the local, is making plans for a big time at the beach. Tickets are being sold now for the excursion and may be obtained from any member of the local.

D. C. Is Broke Because Bill Is Delayed

District officials are alarmed over the failure of Congress to have the appropriation bill finally passed. Little hope is held out of getting the bill through by July 1.

Alonso Tweedale, District Auditor, said today a serious situation confronts the District.

"Supplies for the various District institutions should be bought the first part of next week. We need food for the jail, poorhouse, and other places. There seems to be little likelihood of getting any money next week. If Congress does pass the bill, it will have to go to the President, and if he is still in France, it will take some time to reach him. The only relief I see is a wireless order from President Wilson to go ahead with the appropriations in the bill, after it passes Congress."

Mr. Tweedale stated that because of the increase in the cost of supplies, the District has been running on its credit for the past two months.

There is only one way to settle the situation. That is to get additional credit from various business houses. District officials do not like to do this.

BUREAU GIRLS ASK MONEY BILLS PASS

In behalf of the 3,000 women employees of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing who have been notified they will receive only half of the amount of their salaries due them on June 30, Miss Gertrude M. McNally, secretary of the Federal Employees' Union, which is affiliated with the National Federation of Federal Employees, has written the following letter to Congressmen Warren, Curtis Underwood, Good, Cannon, and Byrnes, conferees of the third deficiency bill:

"There has been posted in the Bureau of Engraving and Printing a notice to the effect that those employees paid from the 'compensation of employees' roll will receive only half of the amount of wages due them on June 30. This is due to the failure of the third deficiency bill, which carries with it an appropriation of \$100,000 for compensation, to become law."

"The women affected have such a low wage scale that to be deprived of a part of their wages, even for a time, will be seriously embarrassing. Therefore, in name of the 3,000 women paid from this appropriation we most earnestly urge upon you the importance of immediately reporting the bill from conference."

Cool weather during the past week has decreased the water consumption in the District, J. S. Garland, superintendent of the water systems, said today.

A decrease of about 3,000,000 gallons a day has been noted. While this decrease is very helpful at present, Mr. Garland states it in no way compares with what the decrease should be.

There is no relief in sight for the present water situation, according to Mr. Garland. Congress is the only place where help can be obtained, and the outlook is very poor.

Relative to the many complaints made regarding the wasting of water on the Union Station plaza fountain, Mr. Garland says this:

"The public has been misinformed. There is no waste at this fountain. This fountain is operated by an electric pump. Below the fountain is a well. From this well the pump gets its water. This water goes through the fountain time and again. It is just a continuous pumping and re-pumping of the same water. The only water wasted is the water blown away by the wind. The same water is used week after week."

More than 179 applications have been received in the last three months by the Health Department for licenses to bring milk into the District. This is the largest number of applications received by the Health Department during any three months. A still greater increase is expected soon.

Election of five representatives to the executive committee of the Federal Employees' Union No. 2 will be held tonight at Musicians' Hall, 1009 E street northwest. The union consists of Federal employees in the District and is a local of the National Federation of Federal Employees.

The candidates for the executive committee are: Frank M. Barnes, Treasury Department; John B. Beach, Department of Interior; James C. Blackwell, War Department; John W. Ginder, Treasury Department; William J. Hendricks, Government Printing Office; Georgia Ludwick, War Department; J. E. McKinn, Department of Commerce; Helen Sinclair, Bureau of War Risk Insurance; Florence P. Smith, Department of Agriculture; Viola Smith, Department of Labor; Harry Taylor, Bureau of War Risk Insurance; and J. R. Williams, Department of Agriculture.

Five delegates to the national convention of the Federation of Federal Employees to be held in September in San Francisco, Cal., also will be elected.

CLARA BARTON GUILD TO MEET. A meeting of the Clara Barton Guild of the Red Cross unit of the Church of Our Father will be held at the home of Mrs. Augusta C. Starkey, First and Girard streets northeast, tomorrow afternoon at 5 o'clock.

Buttons For Service Men Ready July 1

Victory Buttons, the small lapel buttons to be given by Uncle Sam to every man who saw service in the war, are expected to be ready for distribution here July 1.

Men who have been discharged from the army may secure their button by presenting their discharge papers at the army recruiting station, 509 Tenth street northwest.

There are two classes of buttons, one silver for the man who has been wounded while in active duty, the other a replica in bronze for all men who have seen service in this country or abroad.

The medals are for officers and enlisted men who have been discharged, and are only to be worn with civilian clothes.

District service men in addition will receive the medal to be presented by the people of the District at the big rally on the White Lot July 4.

HIGH SCHOOL OPENS FOR SUMMER SOON

Washington's summer high school will start on Monday, July 7, with an attendance of approximately 900 students, it was announced today.

The date is tentative and depends upon the passage of the District appropriation bill by Congress. School officials are confident that funds will be available, with time to spare, before the start of the summer high school classes.

Miss Alice Deal, president of the High School Teachers' Union, and instructor at McKinley Manual Training High School, whose efforts during the past few years have contributed greatly to the establishment of the summer schools on an efficient basis, will act as principal of the 1919 school.

The course will extend through a period of six weeks and the curriculum will include all high school grades of English, history and mathematics, the first two years of French, Latin and Spanish; the first year of stenography, and physics and chemistry.

Twenty-seven teachers, instructors in the various high schools of the city, will have charge of the classes, all of which will be held in the McKinley Manual Training High School.

The 900 students will be admitted to the summer school after having been certified by the high schools which they attended during the year just closed.

LESS WATER USED DURING COOL WAVE

Cool weather during the past week has decreased the water consumption in the District, J. S. Garland, superintendent of the water systems, said today.

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TWO DIE FOLLOWING TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

Two more deaths today were added to the already long list of traffic fatalities when Bernhard Guntton, forty-five years old, of Fort Myer Heights, Va., and Edna Clark, colored, five years old, died from injuries received yesterday in accidents.

Guntton, according to the police, was riding his motorcycle at Twenty-eighth and M streets northwest, yesterday afternoon when he collided with a motor truck operated by Walter Michie, of 1326 Chester court northwest.

He was taken to Emergency Hospital suffering from severe injuries on the body and died early this morning.

The little colored girl was knocked down by an automobile said to have been operated by George Hallbach, colored, of 236 G street southwest, while playing in front of her home, 1516 Third street northwest, yesterday afternoon, and died at Freedman's Hospital.

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WOULD JUMP DORMITORIES INTO OFFICES

Public Building Commission Eager to Get Space Now Occupied by War Workers.

Decision to allot seventy square feet of floor space to each Federal employee in the District of Columbia has been reached by the Public Building Commission, a body created by the last Congress to take over all public buildings here and assign space to the various departments.

Congressman Frank Clark of Florida, secretary of the commission, announced that 150,000 square feet of floor space in the Department of the Interior building will be commandeered and turned over either to the War Risk Insurance Bureau or the Internal Revenue Department. This will afford accommodations for about 2,100 employees.

In the new Navy building 90,000 square feet of floor space will be taken over and made available for some department which is in need of additional floor space.

"In our investigation we found that some employees are housed as much as 400 to 500 square feet of floor space," Mr. Clark said. "That means waste. We are going to reduce such cases to a minimum."

To War on U. S. Hotels. Mr. Clark says he is determined to "put the Government out of the hotel business" and use the dormitories on the Terminal Station Plaza for offices for Government bureaus which are now in rented buildings.

"It was never contemplated at any time that the Government should go permanently into the hotel business," Mr. Clark said. "Last year we faced unusual conditions. We had employees here who had no place to live. Private capital could not be had to provide places for them. The Government had to put up the capital."

"We never dreamed when we appropriated \$100,000,000 for housing needs that a permanent organization would be formed to continue after the emergency had passed."

"I have introduced in the House a bill to repeal the housing act and dispose of all property acquired under its provisions. The only way out is for the Government to pocket its loss and go out of the hotel business."

Hearings Are Ended. The House Rules Committee has been having hearings on a resolution by Mr. Clark providing for an investigation of the expenditure of \$68,000,000 by the United States Housing Corporation.

The hearings were abruptly brought to a close yesterday, when it was announced by the chairman, Congressman Campbell of Kansas, that the hearing would be shortly before the Senate Public Buildings Committee and to avoid duplication, the House investigation would not be continued further.

"I don't care who investigates," Mr. Clark said, when told of the action of the Rules Committee. "I merely want a complete accounting for the manner in which that money was spent. I don't charge anyone with being dishonest. I only want this business closed up in a businesslike manner."

Congress has been asked for approximately \$500,000 with which to operate the dormitories in the District of Columbia during the next year.

"Instead of yielding an income, these buildings are proving a liability," Mr. Clark said. "Some time ago the dormitories brought in a net profit of \$2,500 in one month, but for some reason, there has been a deficit ever since."

"Before the war we paid a round \$1,000,000 a year in the District of Columbia for rent. This sum doubled during the war. There is no reason in continuing such a policy when we have these dormitories, which could be converted into office buildings over night. They would suffice temporary quarters for Government bureaus. Ultimately we expect to build other permanent Government buildings here to relieve the situation."

The Public Building Commission, which is given almost unlimited authority over the various public buildings here, will shortly announce a plan for Government bureaus that will mean the moving of quarters of several thousand employees.

DRIVE OF ST. JOHN'S BRINGS IN \$22,000

Twenty-two thousand dollars in subscriptions was reported yesterday afternoon at headquarters of the St. John's College extension campaign in the Harrington Hotel.

Thomas Keane, with \$235, turned in the largest amount collected by an individual member of the men's teams. Miss Theresa Fitzgerald was the woman turning in the largest amount, \$220.

The following men were added yesterday to the senior business men's committee: Leo A. Rover, H. J. Froehlich, Frank P. Fenwick, Lewis A. Payne, Michael A. Keane, Adam Weschler, James T. Ryan, P. F. Carr, E. J. Quinn, J. Leo Kolb, D. Edward Michalek, C. A. McCarthy, G. P. Mangian, and A. J. May.

U. S. Army Motor Transportation Fleet in First Coast to Coast Trip

A transportation feat that will interest every business man who has a hauling problem on his hands—and every other citizen who realizes the importance of army transportation as a means of national defense. Fully described in

The Washington Times Motor Transportation Number

Published as a part of the regular day's issue of this newspaper, Motor Transportation Day, Saturday, June 28, 1919.

Brig. Gen. C. B. Drake Marshal of Motor Transportation Parade

Will also contribute a signed article to tomorrow's TIMES Automobile Section, describing the U. S. Motor Transportation Division that will take part in Saturday's parade.

These are but two of many features that will make up the first authoritative issue of a newspaper ever devoted to motor transportation in this section.

Tomorrow Is Motor Transportation Day

Held Under the Auspices of the Washington Automotive Trade Association

Tell Your Newsdealer To Be Sure To Save Your Copy of Tomorrow's Times

DAIRYMEN DENY MILK PRICE JUMP

The District Health Department today began an investigation into a rumored increase in the cost of milk in the District after July 1.

Dr. R. R. Ashworth, chief food inspector, returned today from a visit to dairy farms in Maryland and Virginia. From several dairy farmers, Dr. Ashworth obtained the information that milk would be increased, wholesale, two cents a gallon.

There is only one way to settle the situation. That is to get additional credit from various business houses. District officials do not like to do this.

Several dairymen in this city this morning denied the rumor of an increase in the price.

More than 179 applications have been received in the last three months by the Health Department for licenses to bring milk into the District. This is the largest number of applications received by the Health Department during any three months. A still greater increase is expected soon.